

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

In the Office Action, at page 2, claims 1-11 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiedeman et al. "Wiedeman", U.S. Patent No. 5,812,932, in view of Brabson et al. ("Brabson"), U.S. Patent No. 5,715,395.

Claim 10 recites "said connecting means comprises resource information managing means for managing the information relating to the resources, including the position in the real world of the resources, which are usable through said network circuit near each installation position," and "resource setting means for setting the resource according to the resource information received by said resource information receiving means."

According to the Examiner, satellites 12 of Wiedeman et al. correspond to the claimed resource, gateway 14 corresponds to the claimed connecting means, and user terminal 13 corresponds to the claimed resource information setting means. Wiedeman et al. does not appear to disclose a resource setting means that receives the content of the resource information and sets the resource. Instead, gateway 14 has satellite position information that is used to produce a best direction result, which is then transmitted to user terminal 13. Column 8, lines 54-62. Thus, according to the Examiner's interpretation of this reference, the resource information is used to set the resource information receiving means, and is not used to set the resource.

Furthermore, Wiedeman et al. does not appear to disclose that the resource information receiving means receives resource information from the resource information managing means. Instead, this reference discloses that user terminal 13 receives information relating to the

satellites 12 from the satellites 12. Figs. 7 & 8. Thus, according to the Examiner's interpretation of this reference, the resource information managing means receives the resource information from the resource.

Brabson et al. does not appear to overcome these deficiencies in Wiedeman et al., and is not relied upon for this purpose. Instead, Brabson et al. is relied upon as disclosing updated resource information noticing means.

Furthermore, it is noted that the Examiner has not shown any portion of the references that would lead one of skill in the art to combine them. We also note that the references are directed towards unrelated technologies. Thus, it appears the Examiner's combination is based on impermissible hindsight.

For the above reasons, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 10, and claim 11 depending therefrom, is requested.

The remaining claims recite similar distinguishing features. Furthermore, claim 1 recites that a "first computer comprises resource information managing means for managing information relating to resources, including the position in the real world of the resources . . . and transmitting to said network circuit" and that "said second computer comprises position noticing means for noticing the position information indicating the position to said first computer when connected to one of said connecting means, resource selecting means for selecting an arbitrary resource out of plural resources, and resource setting means for setting the resource according to the content of the resource information selected by said resource selecting means."

It is not clear from the Examiner's analysis which elements of Wiedeman et al. correspond to the first and second computers. If the user terminal 13 corresponds to the second computer, then the satellites 12 could correspond to a path by which the first computer transmits to the network circuit and the gateway 14 could correspond to the connecting means.

However, if the user terminal 13 of Wiedeman et al. corresponds to the second computer, the satellites 12 could correspond to the connecting means and the gateway 14 could correspond to the first computer. In this case, the satellites 12 could also correspond to the resource. As shown in Fig. 8, the gateway 14 makes calculations to select an optimum satellite 12, and notifying the result to the user terminal 13.

In either case, Wiedeman et al. teaches that the resource has already been assigned at the time of connection, whereas the present invention assigns the resource in accordance with an installation position of the connecting means.

NEW CLAIMS

New claim 17 is added and recites "a connecting unit to connect and disconnect said computer, the connecting unit comprising a resource information managing unit to manage resource information relating to a resource which is usable through said system, and said computer comprises a resource setting unit to set the resource according to the resource information." Accordingly, claim 17 and claims 18-19 depending therefrom are patentable over the Examiner's cited references.

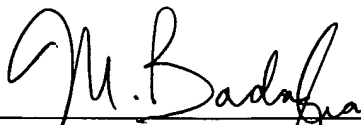
CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining informalities to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such informalities.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,
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